

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments above and remarks the below.

Allowed Claims

Initially, the applicant again gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claims 1 and 3-21.

35 U.S.C. §112 Rejection

In the Office Action, claims 22-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being allegedly indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. In particular, the language as written in claims 22, 24, 26, and 28 allegedly renders the claims indefinite, because it is unclear whether the claims are dependent or independent. Applicant respectfully, but most strenuously, traverses this rejection for the reasons below.

While applicant disagrees with this rejection, to expedite and place this application in condition for allowance, claims 24, 26, and 28 have been placed in independent form as new claims 38, 43, and 48, respectively.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 38, 43, and 48 are now proper independent claims. Dependent claims 39-42, 44-47, and 49-51 have been added with further define application invention. Support for these new claims is found in the specification and the claims. The addition of new matter has been carefully avoided.

Withdraw of this §112 rejection is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

In the Office Action, claims 30, 31, and 34-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(b) as being allegedly unpatentable under Curry (U.S. Patent No. 4,306, 607).

By this amendment, claims 30, 31, and 34-37 have been canceled without prejudice to overcome this rejection.

Official Fees

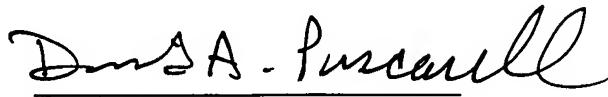
In this amendment, 14 claims were canceled (3 of which were independent claims), 14 new claims have been added (3 of which are independent claims). Accordingly, no official fee associated with the new claims is required.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. Early passage of the subject application to issue is earnestly solicited.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the subject application, applicant's undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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